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placing the component on the substrate when mating of the physical shape of the fiducial marker with the recess is detected.

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64. (Amended) The method of claim 62, wherein said recess corresponds to a beveled edge of the component.

Please cancel claims 65-70, and 74-82 without prejudice and disclaimer.

REMARKS

1. Status of the Application

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-9, 44-54, 61-70, 74-82 are pending in the application after Applicant's election. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7-9, 44-54, 61-70, 74-82 stand rejected.

2. Double Patenting Rejections Under 35 U.S.C §101

The Office Action provides that claims 1, 3, 5, 7-9, 44-54, 61-70, 74-82 stand provisionally rejected 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 44, 45, 48-51, 75-81 of Applicant's co-pending Application Serial No. 09/466483.

To advance the subject application to allowance at an early date, and expressly reserving its rights to pursue protection for the inventions of the claims cancelled herein, Applicant has cancelled claims 1, 8, 44-53, 61, 65-70, and 74-82 without prejudice and disclaimer, and amended claims 3, 9, 62 and 64 in the subject application. Applicant has also cancelled by amendment filed on October 11, 2001, claims 44-48, 50, 52-81 in co-pending Application Serial No. 09/466483.

In view of these actions, reconsideration and withdrawal of the double patenting rejection is requested.

3. Conclusion

Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and passage to allowance of the subject application at an early date are earnestly solicited. If the undersigned can be of assistance in advancing the subject application to allowance, the Examiner may contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made for Application Serial No. 09/466,545

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In the Claims

Claim 1 was cancelled.

Claim 3 was amended as follows:

3. (Twice Amended) A method of placing a component having leads and an alignment-indicating fiducial marker [The method of claim 1], wherein the fiducial marker includes a physically asymmetric portion of the component [and detecting the alignment further comprises], the method comprising:

placing the component into a nest having an asymmetrically shaped recess corresponding to the physically asymmetric marker on the component; [and]

detecting whether the physically asymmetric marker on the component mates with the asymmetrically shaped recess; and

placing the component on the substrate when mating of the physically asymmetric marker with the asymmetrically shaped recess is detected.

Claim 8 was cancelled.

Claim 9 was amended as follows:

9. (Twice Amended) The method of claim [8] 3, wherein detecting [the alignment] further comprises:

directing a pattern of radiation above and parallel to the recess in the nest;

receiving the radiation pattern that passes the recess;

comparing the received radiation pattern to a predetermined radiation pattern; and determining whether the fiducial marker is mated with the asymmetrically shaped recess.

Claims 44-53, and 61 were cancelled.

Claim 62 was amended as follows:

62. (Amended) [The method of claim 61, wherein said detecting further comprises] A method of placing a component having leads and a fiducial marker having an alignment-indicating physical shape, the method comprising:

forming a recess in a nest corresponding to the physical shape of the fiducial marker [shape of the component]; [and]

placing the component in the recess;

detecting whether the physical shape of the fiducial marker mates with the recess;
and

placing the component on the substrate when mating of the physical shape of the fiducial marker with the recess is detected.

64. (Amended) The method of claim 62, [61, wherein said forming a fiducial marker shape includes forming] wherein said recess corresponds to a beveled edge of the component.

Claims 65-70, and 74-82 were cancelled.